

CHANNELS

CLASSIFICATION

MESSAGE HANDLING INDICATOR

DATE-TIME GROUP

CITE

MESSAGE REFERENCE NUMBER

CIA/OCI/WHIZ 741122

CIA/WHSS

SOURCE REF:

1		4		7		10	
2		5		8		11	
3		6		9		12	

ETO: IMMEDIATE WHITE HOUSE//SITUATION ROOM FOR MR FAZIO,
STATE RCI//OPERATIONS CENTER MR FRY, NMCC//ATTENTION 25X1A9a
CIA REP, TREASURY DEPT//INFO FOR [REDACTED]
WARNING NOTICE SENSITIVE INTELLIGENCE SOURCES AND METHODS
INVOLVED

ITEM NO: 4

DATE: 22 NOVEMBER 1974

SUBJECT: GENERAL AMAN'S EXPECTED REMOVAL AS HEAD OF ETHIOPIAN
GOVERNMENT

REF : [REDACTED] 25X1A2g

25X1A2g

THE MILITARY ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL--FORMERLY KNOWN AS THE
ARMED FORCES COORDINATING COMMITTEE--HAS APPARENTLY DECIDED TO
REPLACE GENERAL AMAN AS HEAD OF THE PROVISIONAL MILITARY GOVERN-
MENT. AMAN REPORTEDLY LOST A CRUCIAL VOTE OF CONFIDENCE TODAY WHEN
THE COUNCIL REJECTED HIS ADVICE AGAINST SENDING REINFORCEMENTS
TO FIGHT INSURGENTS IN ERITREA PROVINCE. THE COUNCIL VOTED TO RE-
AFFIRM A NOVEMBER 15 DECISION TO SEEK A MILITARY SOLUTION TO THE
ERITREAN PROBLEM AND ABANDON AMAN'S ATTEMPT TO FIND A POLITICAL

DATE:
ORIG:
UNIT:
EXT:

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SETTLEMENT. AMAN HAD THREATENED TO RESIGN IF THE COUNCIL DID NOT REJECT THE EARLIER DECISION, AND THE COUNCIL IS NOW EXPECTED TO ACCEPT HIS RESIGNATION.

MILITARY UNITS IN ADDIS ABABA ARE BEING BRIEFED TO EXPECT AMAN'S REMOVAL. TROOPS HAVE TAKEN UP POSITION AROUND AMAN'S RESIDENCE, AND THE COUNCIL MAY DECIDE TO ARREST HIM. AMAN IS STILL BELIEVED TO HAVE CONSIDERABLE SUPPORT IN INDIVIDUAL UNITS, ESPECIALLY THE THIRD DIVISION IN EASTERN ETHIOPIA. ONE RELIABLE SOURCE STATES, HOWEVER, THAT AMAN HAS LOST FAVOR EVEN AMONG THESE ELEMENTS.

THE COUNCIL APPARENTLY HAS NOT YET DECIDED ON A REPLACEMENT FOR AMAN. MAJOR MENGISTU HAILEMARIAM HAS RECEIVED CONSIDERABLE PUBLICITY LATELY, AND HIS POSITION PROBABLY HAS BEEN ENHANCED BECAUSE OF HIS IDENTIFICATION WITH THE COUNCIL'S VIEW REGARDING ERITREA. MENGISTU DOES NOT HAVE THE FULL SUPPORT OF THE COUNCIL, HOWEVER, AND THE PUBLICITY HE HAS BEEN GETTING HAS IRRITATED SOME UNITS. THE COUNCIL MAY PICK A LESS WELL-KNOWN OFFICER TO BECOME THE NEXT HEAD OF GOVERNMENT. E-2 IMPDET.H

DATE: 22 NOV 74
ORIG: [REDACTED] /WHSS
UNIT: CIA OPS CTR
EXT: 9340

25X1A9a

SPECIAL DISTRIBUTION: MEA DIV AND NIO [REDACTED]

25X1A9a